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Expedited Procedure  
Examining Group 1615

PATENT  
0933-0154P

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IN THE U.S. PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant: Veli-Matti LEHTOLA et al. Conf.: 7050 JUL 06 2001  
Appl. No.: 09/486,971 Group: 1615 TECH CENTER 1600/2900  
Filed: April 11, 2000 Examiner: R. Bennett  
For: PHARMACEUTICAL PREPARATION COMPRISING CLODRONATE  
AS ACTIVE INGREDIENT AND SILICIFIED  
MICROCRYSTALLINE CELLULOSE AS EXCIPIENT

**RESPONSE UNDER 37 C.F.R. §1.116**

Honorable Commissioner for Patents  
Washington, DC 20231

July 2, 2001  
(Monday)

Sir:

Responsive to the Office Action mailed March 1, 2001, the period for response having been extended one (1) month to July 1, 2001, Applicants respectfully submit the following amendments and remarks in connection with the above-identified application.

**REMARKS**

Claims 1-9 and 11 are pending in the present application. Applicants have not raised any issue of new matter. Applicants respectfully request the Examiner to reconsider the assertion of the outstanding Office Action in light of the following remarks and attached 37 C.F.R. 1.132 Declaration.

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